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15 November 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: OTR-W/E Meeting on Training Support

1. A meeting was held with personnel of the Western Europe (W/E) Division on 9 November 1955 for the purpose of briefing key division personnel on the support role of the Office of Training. Present at the meeting were [redacted]

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2. The main purpose of the meeting was to brief these key division officers on the capabilities and limitations of the Office of Training. It was OTR's purpose to ensure that:

a. Division personnel concerned with the preparation of country appendices be fully aware of all of the training factors to be considered in their preparation, and

b. Division personnel fully understand the Office of Training needs so that when the Division Training Officer levies a request for requirements, they will give him their unqualified cooperation.

Qualified instructor personnel and adequate lead time for requirements were presented as the two most significant factors affecting OTR capabilities.

3. Division requirements were discussed and W/E reiterated their stand that "no major changes in the type, level or character of (training) support will be necessary." OTR raised the question of seeming omissions from the country appendices. These were the matters stated in Paragraph 3 of the OTR Comments on the W/E Country Appendices.

a. W/E does not look for any large increase in their covert training requirements, although presumably there will be some

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increase. OTR Note: An increase may seem small when viewed individually, but when viewed in the aggregate it may represent an increase far beyond OTR capabilities.

b. The established training center in [ ] represents no foreseeable levy on OTR for support for at least the next three years. This facility, established for a specific purpose, is an overt [ ] facility and is self-sustaining so far as support is concerned.

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c. The program for increasing the competence of and expanding liaison with the intelligence and security services will not require expanded training support. This is a continuing program to which personnel previously qualified have been assigned. The present rate of training will be adequate to achieve the desired objective. This applies equally to both staff training and covert training.

d. W/E feels that the establishment of a training facility in Europe [ ] will satisfy their needs or requirements so far as their hot war preparation is concerned. Because training facilities were listed in the OS General Plan for 1957-1958 for consideration in ten country plans, a statement of adequacy should have appeared in the Country Appendices.

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e. W/E indicated a need for expanded training in Counterespionage and Audio-Surveillance. They have found their quotas in each of these courses to be inadequate. In the matter of Audio training, it was recommended that this be taken up with [ ] of the FI Staff and with TBS. Concerning expanded CE training, it was pointed out that the problem of qualified instructor personnel remains as the biggest single deterrent to such expansion.

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f. This meeting did much to establish a closer understanding of the problems that both the Division and the Office of Training work under. The requirements of each were surfaced providing a basis for follow-up. It is now intended to address a request to W/E division through the Clandestine Services Training Committee for specific training support requirements for FY 1957 and FY 1958.

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